GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2861
ANSWERED ON:11.05.2016
Only Rail Neer at Stations
Kushawaha Shri Ravindra

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken to supply only rail neer at all major stations of the Northern Railways;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether the supply of rail neer is likely to be made mandatory and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
(d) whether arrangement for supply of bottled water of other brands complying with the set criteria is likely to be made to meet the demand of pure drinking water with the Railways and if so, the details thereof; and
(e) the steps taken to ensure that safe drinking water or rail neer is made available at all the railway stations?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a) to (e): Yes, Madam. Detailed guidelines have been issued wherein 200 Railway stations including 15 major stations of Northern Railway have been notified as mandatory units for 100% supply of Rail Neer w.e.f. 01.03.2016. In emergent situations arising out of Force Majeure circumstances where Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) is unable to meet 100% demand of Rail Neer, licensees will be permitted to sell other brands of Packaged Drinking Water conforming to BIS (Bureau of Indian Standard) specifications, shortlisted by the concerned zonal railway to meet the demand of packaged drinking water on stations. Zonal railway would however continue to follow the extant procedure for shortlisting packaged drinking water of other brands in accordance with the extant guidelines and ensure availability of adequate supply of approved packaged drinking water on all stations/catering units other than the above 200 stations on which 100% supply of Rail Neer has been made mandatory. In addition, IRCTC has been mandated to install Water Vending Machines at Railway Stations, in a phased manner, in order to provide safe drinking water, conforming to BIS specifications, to passengers at affordable rates.

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